



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,

STATEMENT SHOWING MINIMUM NOMINAL WEEKLY RATES OF WAGE AND ORDINARY HOURS OF  
LABOUR FOR WORKERS IN MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA AT  
31ST DECEMBER, 1956

(Rates of Wage are quoted from the latest Award, Determination or Agreement operative  
at 31st December, 1956)

ADULT MALES

Industry and Occupation	Wage rate s. d.	Hours	Remarks	Source (a)
<u>WOOD, FURNITURE, SAW MILLS, ETC.</u>				
COOPERING - Cooper	333/-	40		Coopers (Comm'th) Award
<u>FURNITURE -</u>				
Cabinet Maker	320/-	"		
Chairmaker	320/-	"		
French Polisher	320/-	"		
Wood Carver	320/-	"		
Wood Machinist	320/-	"	"A" Grade Machinist	
<u>SAWMILLING &amp; TIMBER YDS. -</u>				
Box and Case Maker	285/-	"		
Labourer	259/-	"	"Experienced" (i.e. with 3 months experience)	
Machinist - Boult's Carver	315/-	"		
Moulding	315/-	"	"A" Grade machinists, n.i.e.	
Planing	315/-	"		
Shaping	315/-	"	tradesmen or with 4 years experience	
Orderman	293/-	"		
Sawyer - Band or Jig	320/-	"	Log band sawyer	
Circular	312/-	"	Cutting a depth of at least 7½"	
Tallyman	288/-	"	Man who keeps an account of timber	
<u>ENGINEERING, METAL WORKS, ETC.</u>				
<u>BOILERMAKING -</u>				
Boilermaker	320/-	40		
Helper	268/-	"	Assisting an employee whose margin is 27/6 or more	
Labourer	254/-	"		
<u>ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION -</u>				
Electric Mechanic	320/-	"		
<u>ELECTRICAL SUPPLY -</u>				
Electrical Fitter	353/-	"	(Include 15/- power	
Instrument Maker	353/-	"	) station allowance	
Linesman	338/-	"		
Sub Station Maintenance				
Fitter	338/-	"		
<u>ENGINEERING -</u>				
Blacksmith	322/6	"		
Brassfinisher	320/-	"	Tradesman	
Coppersmith	322/6	"		
Fitter	320/-	"		

(a) Commonwealth-refers to awards of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission. State - refers to determinations of Victorian Wages Boards.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT MALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1956 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	Wage rate	Hours	Remarks	Source
	s. d.			
<u>ENGINEERING - (Cont'd)</u>				
Labourer	254/-	40		)
Patternmaker	342/6	"		)
Shaper	320/-	"	Machinist 1st Class	)
Striker	272/6	"	On double fires	)
Turner	320/-			)
<u>FOUNDRY -</u>				
Coremakers-machine	295/-	"	After 18 months experience	)
Coremakers - jobbing	320/-	"		)
Dressers	292/6	"	) Shot and sand blast-not operating from outside a properly enclosed cabin	)
Furnacemen	290/-	"	Cupola	Metal Trades (Comm'th) Award
Moulders-machine	295/-	"	After 18 months experience	)
Moulders-jobbing	320/-			)
<u>SHEET METAL WORKING -</u>				
Canister Maker	275/-	"	By hand	)
Machinist	267/-	"	Power-not elsewhere specified	)
Solderer	267/-	"		)
Sheet metal worker 1st class	320/-	"		)
Sheet metal worker 2nd class	295/-	"		)
<u>FOOD, DRINK, ETC.</u>				
<u>BAKING (BREAD) -</u>				
Board Hand	362/6	40		Bread Trade Board (Stat)
Bread Carter	335/6	"		Bread Carters Board (State)
Ovensman	362/6	"		) Bread Trade Board
Single Hand	385/10	"		(State)
<u>BAKING (BISCUITS &amp; CAKES) -</u>				
Baker	313/-	40		)
General Labourer	283/-	"		) Biscuit Board (State)
Mixer	313/-	"		)
<u>BREWING -</u>				
Cellarman	295/-	"		The Liquor Trades (Breweries Award (Comm'th)
Driver (Motor 3 tons)	290/6	"		Transport Workers (Gener (Comm'th)
Labourer	288/-	"		The Liquor Trades (Breweries) Award (Comm'th)
Malt Hand	293/-	"		Liquor Trades (Malters) (Comm'th)
Towerman	295/-	"		Liquor Trades (Breweries Award (Comm'th)
<u>BUTCHERING (RETAIL) -</u>				
Carter (1 horse)	288/-	"		)
General Butcher	320/-	"	Acts as Shopman or is principally engaged in cutting for window display	The Meat Industry (Shops and Smallgoods Factories) Award - (Commonwealth)
Shopman	320/-	"		)
Smallgoodsman	320/-	"		)
<u>CONFECTIONERY -</u>				
Confectioner (Grade 1)	320/-	"		Confectioners Board (State)
Storeman	306/6	"		)
<u>JAM MAKING -</u>				
General labourer	272/-	"	With 4 months or more experience	Food Preservers Award (Comm'th)
Solderer	277/-	"		

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT MALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1956 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	Wage Rate	Hours	Remarks	Source
<u>FOOD, DRINK, ETC. (Contd.)</u>				
<u>MEAT PACKING</u> -				
Capper	341/-	40		
Guillotine Hand	353/10	"		
Jokerman	337/-	"		
Packer	337/-	"		
Seamer	341/-	"		
<u>MILLING (FLOUR)</u> -				
Miller (Shift)	360/-	"	In charge of a Shift in mill exceeding 10,000lb flour per hour	
Packerman	298/-	"		
Purifierman	302/6	"		
Smutterman	302/6	"		
Storeman(Head)	313/-	"	With power to engage or dismiss hands	
Topman	302/6	"		
<u>PASTRYCOOKING</u> -				
Packer	281/-	"		
Pastrycook	332/-	"		
<u>CLOTHING, HATS, BOOTS, ETC.</u>				
<u>BOOTMAKING</u> -				
Clicker	302/-	40	Clicking outside (other than felt fabric rounds or splits)	
<u>TAILORING (ORDER)</u> -				
Cutter	329/-	"		
Presser	297/-	"		
Tailor	306/-	"		
<u>TAILORING (READYMADE)</u> -				
Cutter	310/-	"		
Presser	297/-	"		
Tailor	306/-	"		
Trimmer	297/-	"		
<u>TEXTILE WORKING</u> -				
(Woollen Mills) -				
Carder	280/-	"	Balling up card operator	
Dyehouseman	280/-	"		
Labourer(General)	251/-	"		
Scourer (Wool)	289/6	"	Responsible for mixing of liquors and working of bowls	
Spinner	280/-	"		
Loom tuner	318/-	"	Jacquard loom after 2 years experience	
Warper (Plain)	283/-	"		
<u>BOOKS PRINTING, BINDING, ETC.</u>				
<u>BOOKBINDING</u> -				
Finisher	320/-	40		
Bookbinder	320/-	"		
Paper Ruler	320/-	"		
<u>PRINTING (DAILY NEWSPAPER)</u>				
Compositor(Machine) -				
Day Work	409/-	38		
Night Work	444/-	38		
<u>Machinist(First Hand)</u> -				
Day Work	419/9	40		
Night Work	454/-	38		
<u>Publisher-(Day &amp; Night)</u>				
	356/9	40		
	391/9	38		
<u>Reader</u> -				
Day Work	413/-	40		
Night Work	448/-	38		

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT MALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1956 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	Wage Rate	Hours	Remarks	Source
<u>PRINTING (Contd.)</u>				
Stereotyper -				
Day Work	415/3	39		Victorian Printers
Night Work	450/3	38		Operatives Union
<u>PRINTING (JOBMING OFFICES)</u>				Agreement
Compositor	342/6	40		
Linotype Operator	342/6	"		
Machinist	320/-	"	e.g. Letterpress Machinist	The Graphic Arts
Reader	327/6	"		Award-(Comm'th)
Stereotyper	320/-	"		
<u>OTHER MANUFACTURING</u>				
Brickmaking -				
Burner	314/-	40		
Pitman	334/6	"	Other Facemen (other bricks)	
Drawer	326/-	"	Employed in Hoffman kilns	Brick Trade Wages Board
Trucker	308/-	"		
Setter	326/-	"		
Vehicle Building -				
Bodymaker, 1st Class	320/-	"		
Labourer	248/-	"		
Painter	312/6	"		
Springmaker	320/-	"		Vehicle Industry Award
Trimmer	312/6	"		(Comm'th)
Wheelwright	320/-	"		
<u>GAS-MAKING AND SUPPLY</u> -				
Coke Trimmer	284/-	40		Gas Employees (Vic. etc.)
Gasfitter	343/9	"		Award-(Comm'th)
Labourer	278/-	"		Plumbers Board (State)
Meter Tester	313/-	"		Gas Employees (Vic. etc.)
Service Layer	305/6	"		Award-(Comm'th)
Service Layers' Labourer	281/-	"		Gas Meter Board (State)
Stoker	303/-	"	Stoker vertical retorts	
<u>JEWELLERY</u> -				
Chainmaker	325/6	"	Melter and Alloyer	
Mounter	353/-	"	Precious gem mounter	Jewellers Board (State)
Setter	353/-	"	Setter of precious gems	
<u>LEATHER AND CANVAS WORK</u> -				
Canvas Worker	297/-	"		
Leather Worker	297/-	"		Saddlery, Leather and
				Canvas Workers Award-(Comm'th)
<u>TANNING AND CURRYING</u> -				
Beamsman	298/6	"		
Labourer	268/6	"		
Lime jobber	296/6	"		
Machinist -				Tanning Industry Award
Shaving	306/-	"		(Comm'th)
Splitting	323/6	"		
Unhairing	298/6	"		
Tableman	299/6	"		
<u>BUILDING</u>				
Bricklayer	376/8	"	All other bricklayers	Bricklayers Board (State)
Bricklayer (sewer and tunnel)	392/3	"		
Carpenter	348/6	"		Carpenters and Joiners
Mason (Stone)	327/-	"		Award (Comm'th)
Painter	374/2	"		Stonemasons (S.A. & Vic.)
Paperhanger	374/2	"		Award (Comm'th)
Signwriter	374/2	"		
Plasterer (Surface)	376/8	"		Painters Board (State)
Lumber	380/9	"		Plasterers Board (State)
				Plumbers Board (State)

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT MALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1956 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	Wage Rate	Hours	Remarks	Source
	s. d.		<u>BUILDING (Contd.)</u>	
Labourer -				
Bricklayer's	293/4	40		
Carpenter's	293/4	"	Builders Labourers-	Builders Labourers
Concrete Worker	293/4	"	Ordinary	(Construction on Site
Earth Excavator	293/4	"		Award (Comm'th)
Gear Worker	304/2	"	Builders Labourers -	
Scaffold Hand	304/2	"	Skilled	
<u>RAILWAYS -</u>			<u>RAILWAY AND TRAMWAY SERVICES</u>	
<u>Engine Driver Loco -</u>				
Steam, diesel electric or electric	398/-	Ø	Driver loco or electric train after 1st year	
Driving 120 miles or more per shift	413/-	Ø		
Shunting Engine	339/6	Ø	Driver (shunting) - After 1st year	
<u>Fireman</u>				
Ordinary	315/6	Ø	Fireman - After 1st year	Locomotive Enginemen
Working 120 miles or more per shift	323/-	Ø		Award (Comm'th)
Shunting Engine	296/6	Ø	Fireman (shunting), after 2nd year	
<u>Guard</u>				
1st Class	356/-	Ø		
2nd Class	341/-	Ø	5th year of service	Railway Traffic,
<u>Porter -</u>			Parcels, Class 1-2nd year of service	Permanent Way and
	294/6	Ø		Signalling Wages
<u>Shunter -</u>				Staff (Comm'th)
Leading	359/6	+	Leading, Class 1-2nd year of service	
Ordinary	317/-	+	3rd year of service	
<u>Signalman -</u>				
1st Class	353/-	+		Railways Traffic,
2nd Class	336/-	Ø		Permanent Way and
3rd Class	323/-	Ø		Signalling Wages Staff
<u>RAILWAYS -</u>				Award - (Comm'th)
<u>Conductor -</u>				
1st year	286/-	Ø		
2nd year	300/6	Ø		
Thereafter	300/6	Ø		Tramway Employees
Labourer	281/-	Ø		(Melbourne) Award -
Track Repairer	289/-	Ø		(Comm'th)
Tram Driver	308/-	Ø		
Pitman	312/-	Ø		
			<u>TRANSPORT (OTHER)</u>	
<u>CARRYING MERCHANDISE -</u>				
<u>Carter -</u>				
1 Horse	268/6	40		
2 Horses	281/-	"		
Stable Hand	263/-	"		
Motor Lorries & Waggons -				Transport Workers
3 tons	290/6	"		(General) Award -
Over 3 tons but under 6 tons	300/-	"		(Comm'th)

Rates are weekly equivalents of hourly rates. They include allowances for leave, holidays, following the job, etc.

Ø 80 hours per fortnight. + 76 hours per fortnight.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT MALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1956 (Contd.)

Industry and Occupation	Wage Rate	Hours	Remarks	Source
	s.d.			
<u>WHARF LABOUR</u> -			<u>TRANSPORT (OTHER) (Contd.)</u>	
Wharf Labourer (per hour)	9/10			Waterside Workers Award (Comm'th)
<u>HOTELS</u> -			<u>HOTELS, ETC.</u>	
Barman	285/-	40		
Billiard Marker	265/-	"		
Cook	360/-	"	1st cook, 8 or more persons employed in kitchen	Liquor Trades (Hotels and Wine Saloons)
Handyman	265/-	"		Award - (Comm'th)
Kitchenman	265/-	"		
Porter	265/-	"		
Waiter	265/-	"		
<u>HAIRDRESSING</u> -				
Hairdresser (Mens)	328/-	"		Hairdressers Board (State)
<u>GENERAL LABOUR</u>				
<u>FACTORY ENGINE DRIVING</u> -				
<u>Engine Driver</u> -				
1st Class	308/-	40	With Condenser	
2nd Class	297/6	"	" " "	Engine Drivers and
<u>Fireman</u> -				Firemen (General)
1st Class	290/-	"		Award - (Comm'th)
2nd Class	277/6	"		
<u>MUNICIPAL</u> -				
Labourer	272/6	"		Municipal Employees
Street Sweeper	278/-	"	Cleansing Labourer	Melbourne City Council
<u>SHOP ASSISTANTS</u> -				Agreement - (Comm'th)
Boot Salesman	313/-	"		Shops Board No.1 (Boot Dealers) (State)
Drapery Salesman	313/-	"		Shops Board No.9 (Drapers and Mens Clothing) (State)
Furniture Salesman	317/-	"		Shops Board No.14 (Furniture Dealers) (State)
Grocery Salesman	307/6	"		Shops Board No.15 (Grocers) (State)
Hardware Salesman	313/-	"		Shops Board No.16 (Hardware) (State)
Men's Clothing Salesman	313/-	"		Shops Board No.9 (Drapers and Men's Clothing) (State)
<u>STOREMAN AND PACKERS</u> -				
Packer (General)	306/6	"		Storemen, Packers and
Storeman (General)	306/6	"		Sorters Board (State)

WEEKLY WAGE RATES AND HOURS, ADULT FEMALES, 31ST DECEMBER, 1956

Industry and Occupation	Wage Rate	Hours	Remarks	Source
	s. d.			
<u>FOOD</u>				
Biscuit Making	217/-	40		Biscuit Board (State)
Confectionery	212/-	"		Confectioners Board (State)
Footmaking	206/6	"		Footwear Manufacturing Award - (Comm'th)
Dressmaking, Ready Made Cutter	220/6	"		
Millinery Cutter	220/6	"		
Shirt Making "	220/6	"		
Underclothing "	220/6	"		
<u>TAILORING(MEN'S) - ORDER</u>				
Coat Hand (Machinist)	220/6	"		
Trousers & Vest Hand	208/-	"		
Tailoress	306/-	"		Clothing Trades Award - (Comm'th)
Adult Female	190/6	"		
<u>TAILORING(MEN'S) READYMADe</u>				
Coat Hand (Machinist)	210/6	"		
Trousers & Vest Hand	205/6	"		
Tailoress	306/-	"		
Adult Female	190/6	"		
<u>TEXTILE WORKING WOOLLEN MILLS</u>				
Comb Minder	204/6	"		
Darner and Mender	209/6	"	After 6 months experience	
Warper, Plain	206/6	"	"	
Weaver (loom)	209/6	"	"	
Gillbox Minder	202/6	"	"	
Other Adult	188/6	"	"	
<u>BOOKBINDING</u>				
Folder	207/6	40		
Sewer	207/6	"		
<u>WEDDING BOX</u>				
Boxmaker	205/6	"	When boxes covered with Paper	Graphic Arts Award - (Comm'th)
Other	196/-	"		
<u>PRINTING</u>				
Jobbing Office Assistant	207/6	"		
<u>HOTELS AND SHOPS</u>				
<u>HOTELS</u>				
Barmaid	285/-	40		
Housmaid	200/6	"		
Laundress	201/6	"		
Waitress - Head	207/6	"		
Other	200/6	"		
<u>RESTAURANTS</u>				
Pantry Maid	208/6	"		
Waitress	208/6	"		Hotel and Restaurant Board (State)
<u>CLERKS</u>				
Cashiers (Shops)	239/6	"		
Clerical Assistants	239/6	"		Commercial Clerks Board (State)
<u>SHOPS</u>				
Boot Saleswoman	222/-	"		Shops Board No.1 (Boot Dealers) (State)
Drapery Saleswoman	313/-	"		Shops Board No.9 (Drapers & Men's Clothing) (State)
Fruit & Confectionery Saleswoman	218/-	"		Shops Board No.19 (Confectionery etc.) (State)
Newsagent & Bookstall Saleswoman	211/-	"		Shops Board No.21 (Booksellers and Newsagents) (State)